GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2208
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2008
LAND DEGRADATION AND ITS MANAGEMENT
Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether land degradation is growing in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its effect on population;

(c) whether the Government proposes an effective land management system in the country;and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a) & (b) The Wastelands Atlas of India-2005 brought out by the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development in collaboration with the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), Hyderabad using satellite imagery data reveals that the extent of wastelands as 55.27 M.ha.,a reduction of 8.58 M ha. (2.71%) in the country when compared to extent of wastelands reported in Wastelands Atlas-2000.

(c) & (d) The Department of Land Resources is implementing three area development programmes viz. Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme(DDP) and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme(IWDP) on watershed basis. One of the main aims of these programmes is effective management of land resources in the country.